



State Office of Administrative Hearings

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Weapons in the Workplace Policy

Concealed handgun licensees are authorized to carry handguns on the premises of government offices, unless otherwise prohibited by law. A firearm, illegal knife, club, or other identified prohibited weapon is prohibited "on the premises of any government court or offices utilized by the court, unless pursuant to written regulations or written authorization of the court." *Tex. Penal Code § 46.03(a)(3)*. When conducting contested case hearings, the State Office of Administrative Hearings acts in a judicial or quasi-judicial capacity, and contested case hearings are the equivalent of court proceedings.

This policy prohibits all firearms and other weapons defined as prohibited by the Texas Penal Code on property owned or occupied by the agency, except as permitted by Chapter 52, Subchapter G of the Texas Labor Code and Chapter 411, Subchapter H of the Texas Government Code.

Appropriate signs are posted at the State Office of Administrative Hearings facilities. If someone appears at a State Office of Administrative Hearings facility with a handgun, the individual should be made aware that weapons are not permitted and should be removed from the State Office of Administrative Hearings facility or premises.